



**United States Attorney's Office
District of Columbia**

**Channing D. Phillips
Acting United States Attorney**

PRESS RELEASE

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Northeast Man Sentenced to 34 Years in Prison for Murder of Southeast Man

WASHINGTON, D.C. - Shiraka Evans, 21, was sentenced on Thursday, November 19, 2009, by the Honorable Herbert B. Dixon, Jr. in the Superior Court of the District of Columbia to 42 years in prison in connection with the April 2005 murder of Alvin Mayhew, announced Acting U.S. Attorney Channing D. Phillips. Evans was convicted on July 7, 2009, following a two-week trial that concluded with a guilty verdict as to Second Degree Murder While Armed, Assault With Intent to Kill While Armed, and related firearms offenses.

The evidence at trial showed that Evans' murder of Mayhew stemmed from an ongoing dispute between two groups of young men who lived in rival Southeast neighborhoods and who, in the weeks before the homicide, routinely engaged in fights at a common meeting point. One of these fights occurred within days of the killing and involved Evans and two members of Mayhew's group. On April 4, 2005, the defendant escalated the dispute between the two groups by seeking out these two rival members in the 4400 block of Alabama Avenue, Southeast, and firing at them multiple times from his vehicle. Alvin Mayhew was struck and killed during this incident.

In announcing the sentence, Acting U.S. Attorney Phillips commended the work of Metropolitan Police Department Detectives Elbert Griffin and Michael Fulton, who handled the investigation of this murder, as well as Sgt. Dan Wagner, Detectives Steven McDonald and Earl Delauder, Investigators Joseph Abdala and Derek Starliper, Firearms Examiner Rosolyn Brown and Crime Scene Search Officer Steven Griffin. He also praised the work of Paralegal Specialist Marian Russell, Litigation Technology Specialists Kimberly Smith, Janay Jones, Joseph Calvarese, Ron Royal, Dontrell Smith and Paul Howell, along with Assistant U.S. Attorney Kevin Flynn and Wendy Pohlhaus of the U.S. Department of Justice, who tried the case, and Assistant U.S. Attorney Michelle Jackson, who assisted in its investigation.

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